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Through The Looking Glass

(By E. O. LAIRD)

HALLOWEEN

The seat under the maple tree was well occupied the afternoon I strolled over to see the Philosopher. On it sat four pumpkins, a witch on a broomstick, three black cats, several owls and bats, two small boys and the Philosopher. "No room, no room!" cried the Philosopher gaily as I came near. "There's plenty of room," I said indignantly like Alice; and removing a pumpkin and two black cats I sat down. "The late October sun sifted brightly through the almost leafless maple, warming the seat with yellow lace-like patterns. "What are you doing?" I demanded, picking up a cat in order to study it at arm's length. "Sh-h-h," said the Philosopher mysteriously. "On Hallowe'en, thin ghosts are seen, And witches, broomsticks ride; And goblins quaint, and things 'that ain't' Keep walking by your side."

"So when they're nigh, eat pumpkin pie," I finished poetically, watching the boys scoop out the yellow pumpkin into a large blue bowl. "Well, who could have Jack O'Lanterns without pumpkin pie?" demanded the Philosopher. "What will you do, make another black cat, cut out a lantern face?" "I'll answer promptly," I will give more scope to my artistic ability. I'll carve one guaranteed to frighten away any evil spirit. Isn't that what Jack O'Lanterns are for?" "Yes," said the Philosopher. "Lighted faces go back to the pre-Christian era, when grotesquely carved figures and fiery torches were used against evil spirits. Hallowe'en or All Hallow's Eve is really a Christian festival of medieval England, but the mystic motifs connected with it, and the traditional ceremonies enacted, date back to the pagan rituals of the Druids, the religious order of the pre-historic Celts. "Take, for example, the characteristics of Hallowe'en, the lighting of bon-fires, and the belief that witches and evil spirits roam abroad on this night. The Druids held their Autumn festival about the first of November, in which the lighted fires in honor of their sun god as a thanksgiving taken for the harvest and an act of propitiation for harvests to come. They also believed that Saman, the dark lord of death, called together on the eve of this festival all the wicked souls that within the past year had been condemned to inhabit animal bodies. "Such as cats, owls and bats, I presume." "Of course," replied the Philosopher. "Then, apples and nuts trace their descent in the Hallowe'en motif, from the ancient Roman festival of Pomona, goddess of plenty, observed November the first. Representing the winter spirit, they played an important part in the rites. The religious significance was lost after a time, but the roasting of nuts, and the fun known as 'apple ducking' were continued by the young folks in England in the middle ages. "I expect the young people of the 20th century continue them, too." I remarked, glancing at the two boys hacking industriously on the insides of their pumpkins. The Philosopher smiled. "Yes, but I don't think they have any inhibitions about goddesses and black cats. In the rush and hurry of our modern age, we are fast forgetting the lovely old legends and rituals of our festive days. Hallowe'en to many means mischief and pranks. If every community would celebrate Hallowe'en with a community social I am sure much destruction of property would be averted. "I held up my Jack O'Lantern. "How do you like this?" I asked. The Philosopher looked amused. "I pity the evil spirits," said he. "Do come over Hallowe'en, for a few minutes, and see him lighted up." "I nodded assent. I could see, in my mind's eye, the Philosopher's front glass porch that night flummoxed with eerie grinning pumpkin faces; the walls of it all huddled with cats, owls, bats, and witches riding broomsticks; on the floor, a big tub of bobbing apples, each containing a precious five-cent piece; and, grime movement and fun and gaiety to it all, a dear old Philosopher and a dozen or more excited, small boys.

TYNE VALLEY SCHOOL REPORT

The following is the report of the Tyne Valley School for the month of September:

Principal's Dept.
Grade X (Sr.) — 1. Donald Forbes; 2. Bernice Ramsay; 3. Julia Ramsay.
Grade X Jr. — 1. Gladys Ellis; 2. Estelle MacAusland; 3. Isabella MacDougall.
Grade IX — 1. Wanda MacNevin; 2. Jack Nisbet; 3. Allison Ramsay.
Grade VIII — 1. Gladys Ramsay; 2. Ethel Ramsay; 3. Fredrick MacNevin.
Grade VII — 1. Audrey McDonald; 2. Verna Folland; 3. Freddy MacNevin.
Grade VI — 1. Phyllis Sharp; 2. Margaret Nisbet; 3. Jean MacKay.
Primary Dept.
Grade VI — 1. Donald MacDougall; 2. Blanche Ramsay; 3. Frances MacKay.
Grade V — 1. Stuart Eagles; 2. Eysa Waite; 3. Pauline Waite.
Grade IV — 1. Helen Nisbet; 2. Roger MacKay; 3. Leonard MacDougall.
Grade III — 1. Elizabeth Nisbet; 2. Orville MacDougall; 3. Vera Marchbanks.
Grade II (Sr.) — 1. Kenneth Williams; 2. Elmer Biggar; 3. Vaughn Ramsay.
Grade I Jr. — 1. Shirley MacKay; 2. Basil MacDougall; 3. Cecil Ramsay.
Perfect Attendance — Elaine Williams, Lawrence Stewart, J. A. S. Williams, B. A. Principal, Euid Inman, Assistant.

P. W. C. NOTES

In Section B Debating Society, several members gave three minute speeches on "Why I am attending College."

A mass meeting of the College students was held in the auditorium after the last period Thursday for the purpose of making plans for the students parade on Hallowe'en.

The Student's Song Service was held in St. Peter's Cathedral on Sunday evening. Rev. Canon Malone conducted the service. The theme of his address was "Education." The choir was directed by Mrs. Francis Holl Trainor. The Song Service next Sunday evening will be held in the Salvation Army Citadel.

Albert Wilson, who sprained his ankle during the first football practice of the season, has recovered sufficiently to enable him to walk without the aid of crutches. Allison Gillis, who dislocated his shoulder in the football game with S.D.U. last week, has also recovered, although his shoulder is still sore. Neither of these boys will be able to participate actively in athletics for some time.

Section A debate was on the topic, "Resolved that modern warfare is more horrible than ancient warfare." The speakers for the affirmative were Kathleen Devar and Arthur Hearty spoke for the pro; and Herbert Murray, Hilda Brown and Hilda Coles supported the con. The debate resulted in a victory for the pro. Vernon MacDonald was critic and Miss Carr was recording secretary.

The theme for Section C debate was "Resolved that Prohibition is of no benefit to Prince Edward Island." Bill Bentley, Kathleen Devar and Arthur Hearty spoke for the pro; and Herbert Murray, Hilda Brown and Hilda Coles supported the con. The debate resulted in a victory for the pro. Vernon MacDonald was critic and Miss Carr was recording secretary.

The P.W.C. football team left on Friday afternoon, October 21st for Amherst where they played against the Amherst High School team on Saturday afternoon. The game was a hard fought one from the starting whistle to the last moment of play. During the first half of the game the teams were about evenly matched and the period ended without a score for either side. In the second half the Amherst team began to weaken, whereas, the P.W.C. boys were apparently just getting into form. The final score was 8-0 in favour of the Prince of Wales team. Allison Gillis was manager of the team on this their first football excursion to the mainland in several years. An additional card of students went over to Amherst Saturday morning to see the game and to cheer for the team. The boys came home with high regards for the people of Amherst and were favorably impressed with the sportsmanship of their opponents.

Reduced Fares To Ottawa Winter Fair

MONTREAL, Oct. 27.—In view of the opening of the Winter Fair at Ottawa on November 7 and continuing up to and including November 11, the Canadian National Railway has announced that it will offer to the public considerably reduced fares for this event, according to C. P. Riddell, chairman Canadian passenger Association. These fares will consist of a single fare for the round trip, good going from November 7 to 11, with return movement good to leave destination up to midnight 12. Fares will apply from all stations in the province of Ontario bounded by Sault Ste Marie, Sudbury, Capreol, Cochrane, Toronto and east thereof, also from all stations in the province of Quebec.



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G. N. R. Notes

(By Linesman)
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Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Boyer, Div. Aoc. left last week for Montreal and Toronto on two week's vacation.

Mr. Matthew MacLeod, Section Man at Vernon River, has bid in same position at Melville re Mr. Augustine Morrissey retirement on superannuation.

The Section Foreman at the different terminals are taking stock now, for the annual inventory.

Mr. James Redmond who has been Section Man in Charlottetown yard has bid in the bulletined position at Vernon River, his former residence.

Mr. Alex Scott, Division Engineer was called to Moncton on business, and flew back Monday night on account of Mrs. Scott's illness.

Mr. E. W. MacKinnon, Division Superintendent, accompanied by Mrs. MacKinnon and Charlie leave by motor today for Boston, New York and other American cities on a well earned vacation.

No matter where one goes on Prince Edward Island, or elsewhere, where the question of the Railway's finances come up, you will hear ninety per cent of the talk against the employees.

I do not profess to know all about the Railway, but what little I do know I would like to put in print for those of the opposition.

First of all the Railway's directly concern 100,000 employees in Canada, who have not one word to say how the Railway should be run in order to effect savings. However, it is always on their shoulders and the shoulders of their families that the burden of the savings effected by a salary reduction must rest.

The employees have never been known to wait on the Management and ask for extravagant lines to be built, notes, etc. they have never asked for extra trains to run when the revenue does not warrant it, they have never asked for any of the gross expenditures that would in the end be their loss, yet when the Management are forced to put these extravaganzas to the public's use, the employees must take a cut in pay to balance the difference between expenditure and revenue.

Within the next week or so the majority of the employees will be laid off one day a week, a cut of 1-2 per cent, which means that an employee who gets \$90.00 a month (and that's good pay for the ordinary Railway man today), will receive \$78.00. This means the extra \$12.00 will not reach the butcher, baker, farmer, driver, coal dealer, landlady and all the rest of the merchants whose employees spend their cheques.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE

(Continued from page 3.)

knew that it was as much as their lives were worth to transgress the command of Nebuchadnezzar. They would probably be put to death the very same day. However, there came one thing they could not do, whatever happened. They could not disobey God. So "Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank; and the other three joined with him in making this brave resolve.

Daniel's purpose was the noblest that any one could have. He desired to obey God at any cost, though he lived among the heathen and was nothing but a slave. Perhaps it was a hard struggle when he thought of the cruel death he might have to die, but once he had fully made up his mind he was not the boy to turn back.

He spoke to the Master of the Household about the matter and explained why he could not eat the king's meat nor drink his wine. He respectfully asked if he and his friends might be allowed to eat pulse. This means peas and beans and, perhaps, various other vegetables and also cereals. Instead of strong wine he desired permission to drink pure cold water. The good man was puzzled and distressed. He felt the boys were sure to get into trouble, for they would not thrive so well as those who lived on meat and wine, and would not look so handsome as appear before the king. Also he was afraid for himself. If the king were angry, the Ashpenaz said, he would think nothing of cutting off his head for having allowed the boys to break the rules.

This made it more difficult than ever, for Daniel certainly did not want to endanger his friends, however brave he might be for himself. But whatever happened, he must obey his God. So he begged the Master to try his plan for ten days at least, and see how it worked. Ashpenaz turned the four over to Melzar, who prepared the food, and they were allowed to eat pulse and drink water just as they had

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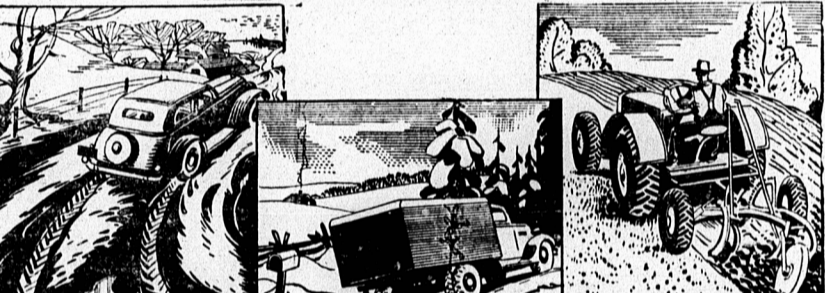
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asked to do. At the end of the ten days they were examined and it was found they were better looking than the other young fellows who had eaten from the king's table. So they were permitted to keep on in the same way and observe the law of their God as they had done at home. "There is nothing surprising in the fact that they were healthier than the others and had better complexions. Strong drink is not nourishing or good for the body in any way at all. It contains nothing whatever that will build up muscle and nerve and make rich red blood. On the contrary, the poison alcohol makes the muscles flabby and numbs the nerves and injures the blood in several different ways. Those who leave it alone and drink pure water are much more likely to be healthy and strong than the people who use it even in the most moderate quantities. Alcohol specially injures the brain and those who do mental work should never touch it. When the three years course was over, the Jewish boys had to take their examinations. As Daniel and his friends had studied hard and constantly sought God's blessing and had never poisoned their brains with alcohol, they did well. The others had eaten heavily from day to day and used the alcoholic drink that makes it difficult for the brain to work. The result was this: "Among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, and in all matters of wisdom and understanding that the king inquired of them he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm." From this time forth Daniel rose higher and higher until he was the greatest man in the country after the king himself. At last, through his influence at court, he was able to prepare the way for his people to return from exile to their own land. All this was because, as a mere boy in his teens, he had "purposed in his heart" to do right at any cost. Would it not be a fine thing if every British boy and girl would "purpose" to leave strong drink alone and to obey God throughout life?

Dare to be a Daniel, Dare to stand alone, Dare to have a purpose firm, And dare to make it known!

QUESTIONS
1. What one thing did Daniel and the boys with him at the court of Nebuchadnezzar determine not to do? (Value 10 marks.)
2. Why is strong drink not good for the body? (Value 10 marks.)



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